

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response the Office Action dated September 19, 2007.

Applicant respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-19 are currently pending, with claim 1 being independent.

Claim 1 is amended. No new matter is added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-11 and 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Fujii* (U.S. Patent No. 6,411,344) in view of *Yamaoka* (U.S. Patent No. 6,025,958). This rejection is respectfully traversed at least the following reasons.

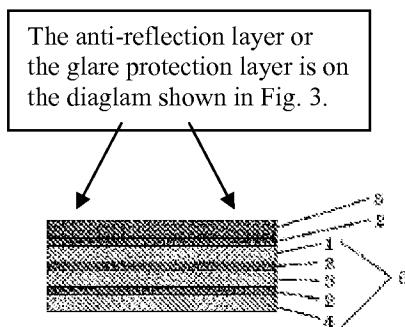
Amended claim 1 recites that a transparent conductive laminate comprising a film made of a polymer with a photoelastic constant of no greater than $70 \times 10^{-12} \text{ Pa}^{-1}$ (polymer film A), a light-scattering layer with a haze value in the range of 0.2-1.4% formed directly on one side thereof, and a transparent conductive layer formed on the other side thereof, wherein the laminate exhibits a $\lambda/4$ retardation. Accordingly, the scattering layer is formed on the polymer film A, but on the opposite side of the transparent conductive layer as shown in Figures 1-4.

The Office Action acknowledges in item 4 on page 4, *Fujii* is silent regarding disposing a light scattering layer on the retardation film layer.

Further, as the Office Action states that *Yamaoka* discloses that the circular polarizing plate comprising one or both of an anti-reflection layer and a glare protection layer provided on one or both sides thereof for the purpose of preventing surface reflection or like purposes (item 5 on page 4 of Office Action, col. 5, lines 63-66 of *Yamaoka*); and the glare protection layer may be formed by any proper method which allows the surface of the circular polarizing plate to scatter reflected light (item 5 on page 4 of Office Action, col. 6, lines 3-5 of *Yamaoka*). This means that anti-reflection layer or glare protection layer is outside of the polarizing plate, and is not directly on the half wave plate or the quarter wave plate. The following diagram and chart showing the order of layer/plate of *Yamaoka*. This order is more clearly understood by *Yamaoka*'s claim that *Yamaoka*'s laminated wavelength plate include both "half wave plate" and "quarter wave plate" (see claims 1 and 2 of *Yamaoka*); and a circular polarizing plate has the

laminated wavelength plate having a $\frac{1}{4}$ wavelength plate and a polarizing plate (see claim 5 of *Yamaoka*).

Fig. 3 (*Yamaoka*)



The following chart explains the order of layers shown in the above.

The anti-reflection layer or the glare protection layer – formed by any proper method which allows the surface of the circular polarizing plate to scatter reflected light (col. 6, lines 3-5 of <i>Yamaoka</i>)
5: The polarizing plate
6: The laminated wavelength plate having a $\frac{1}{4}$ wavelength plate

When such an anti-reflection layer or a glare protection layer is outside of the polarizing plate like *Yamaoka*, it only scatters the surface reflection of the obtained display. Accordingly, *Yamaoka* does not provide a function of preventing generation of Newton rings.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the cited references must either alone or in combination teach or suggest the invention as a whole, including all the limitations of the claims. Here, in this case, the combination of *Fujii* and *Yamaoka* does not teach all of the limitations of the claims. As discussed above, *Fujii* fails to teach or suggest such a light scattering layer in amended claim 1. This deficiency is not cured by the teachings and suggestions of *Yamaoka*.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case has not been established by the Office Action. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection and allowance of the claim is respectfully requested.

Moreover, aside from the novel limitations recited therein, claims 2-11, and 14-19, being dependent either directly or indirectly upon claim 1, are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is therefore courteously solicited.

Claim 12 and 13 are dependent on claim 1, and as mentioned above, claim 1 would not be rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). This rejection is respectfully traversed at least the following reasons.

Moreover, aside from the novel limitations recited therein, claims 12 and 13, being dependent directly upon claim 1, are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is therefore courteously solicited.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, all pending claims are allowable, and the present application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reexamination and reconsideration of the application in light of these amendments and remarks is courteously solicited. If the examiner has any comments or suggestions that would place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number below.

Dated: December 18, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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